

Mr. Parks was a devoted Christian, husband, father, and grandfather who was dedicated to the service of his family, his community, his church, and many other things, including his country.

Philip served our country valiantly in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam war as a linguist in Taiwan. He was a schoolteacher for over 30 years, a principal for many schools throughout the area, and an extremely active member of the First Baptist Church and other organizations, including the Rotary Club and VFW—even serving as a volunteer firefighter.

We will never know the number of lives he impacted over the course of his own life. I had the privilege of meeting Mr. Parks right here in Washington, D.C., on his last flight when he traveled here with the Permian Basin Honor Flight. What an honor it was to see the service, the dedication, and the leadership.

I am sending my deepest condolences to his beloved wife, Lois, who shared 52 years of marriage, and his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. Parks for his service.

SOUTHERN BORDER

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask a simple question: When will this administration recognize the crisis at our southern border?

Late last night Customs and Border Protection released their record-shattering border crisis numbers. Once again, in the month of October, more than 164,000 illegal immigrants were apprehended.

This is the worst October in DHS history, and these are only the numbers of those who were apprehended, not to mention the got-aways. Drug trafficking and human trafficking is surging. It is confirmed that MS-13 gang members are crossing into the United States and hundreds of thousands—in fact, over 2.1 million—have entered this country illegally with more advancing towards our southern border right now.

Meanwhile, the administration is considering nearly half a million dollars in payments to illegal immigrants who broke the law while they are not paying contractors to build the wall and they are leaving already paid for materials in the field to rot. All this is made worse by the fact that the President is forcing our brave Border Patrol officers who are woefully understaffed and lacking the resources they need to choose between their livelihoods and a vaccine mandate. We have seen reporting by the Border Patrol that nearly half of its agents could be fired in less than a week due to the administration's November 22 COVID-19 vaccine deadline.

It has never been more clear. The President has abandoned Texas and every other border State, and he is cutting his own Border Patrol agents off at the knees. It is long past time to

admit that there is a crisis at our southern border and that the men and women of the United States Border Patrol are overwhelmed and they need their Commander in Chief to support them.

This crisis is not slowing down.

Mr. President, we urge you to secure the border, to not abandon Texas, and to come to our rescue.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

HONORING OFFICERS CHRIS OBERHEIM AND JEFFREY CREEL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. MILLER) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, some Members of this body have called to defund the police. Sadly, while crime is on the rise, we have Democrat Governors across the country who are implementing anti-police policies.

In Illinois, our Governor signed legislation to eliminate bail and put offenders right back on the street. He released dangerous inmates because of COVID and refuses to work with ICE to deport illegal immigrants. The result, as we all know, is that our neighborhoods are less safe and the job of law enforcement is more dangerous. People want and need police protection. Americans appreciate and support our police.

Tragically, this past year we lost a brave officer from Champaign, Illinois. In the line of duty, Officer Chris Oberheim was killed and Officer Jeffrey Creel, his partner, was shot three times while returning fire. He survived. Like so many law enforcement officers around our country, Officer Oberheim and Officer Creel put the people of their community first ahead of their own safety.

Officer Oberheim's life and service will not and should not be forgotten. I cannot imagine the loss and the pain that his family suffers day by day. They continue to be in my thoughts and prayers.

Misguided policies from ignorant politicians have turned Chicago into a war zone and are making our communities less safe. Criminals are allowed to steal thousands of dollars of merchandise and many are not being charged. Soft-on-crime policies embolden criminals.

I promise to always back the blue and stand with our police. May God bless our law enforcement.

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HOUTHIS' LATEST ACT OF AGGRESSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CLYDE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring much-needed attention

to the Houthis' latest act of aggression.

Back in February, President Biden naively removed the Houthis, the Iranian-backed proxy force in Yemen, from designation as a foreign terrorist organization and from the specially designated global terrorist lists.

Taking full advantage of President Biden's foolish decision and complete lack of leadership, the Houthis stormed the U.S. Embassy in Yemen last Wednesday, using the raid to take hostages and equipment. After years of brutal tactics, this latest act of hostility confirms again that the ruthless Houthis must be designated as a foreign terrorist organization.

In June, I proudly introduced legislation to do just that. H.R. 3965, the Standing Against Houthi Aggression Act, would reinstate the sanctions that the Trump administration placed on the Houthis, and redesignate the group as a foreign terrorist organization.

I am deeply concerned for the safety of the Yemeni locals who were kidnapped while protecting our embassy. And again, I call on the Biden administration to provide an immediate briefing to Congress regarding that dangerous situation.

I also implore all of my colleagues to support H.R. 3965, and I urge Speaker PELOSI to bring this legislation to the floor for immediate consideration.

We have already witnessed devastating impacts of the administration's botched Afghanistan withdrawal. We cannot allow President Biden's void in leadership to develop additional disasters in the Middle East.

In fact, at this very moment, our adversaries are defiantly gearing up to cause destruction. From China aggressively preparing for a potential invasion of Taiwan, to Russia successfully testing an anti-satellite weapon in space, numerous emerging international crises present additional leadership tests for President Biden. So far, the silence has been deafening.

For the sake of the American people and our allies, Mr. President, lead from the front.

AMERICA'S SOARING INFLATION

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the soaring inflation that continues to burden Americans across this great Nation. There are plenty of reasons to be thankful this holiday season, but Biden's Thanksgiving tax is not one of them.

Prices of common grocery items are skyrocketing, just in time for folks to gather around the table with loved ones. The price of a 15-pound turkey is up 27 percent. Apples are up 6.7 percent. Potatoes are up 13 percent. Cranberries are up 5.2 percent. And the list goes on and on. In fact, this year's Thanksgiving is expected to be the most expensive holiday meal in history.

But it doesn't just stop at the grocery store checkout line. Consistent with months of increasing gas prices, holiday travelers will face sticker